

Letter No. C. 1211 of 1923-24, dated the 22nd September 1924, from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Adverting to Government Pro. No. 1818-21—M. F. 332-22-10, dated 14th June 1924, appointing a Committee to consider and report upon the formation of the Taluk and District Committees, the further decentralization of the powers and duties of the Muzrai Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners and the revision of the present rules defining the powers and duties of Dharmadarsis, I have the honor to state that a meeting of the Committee was held in my office on Saturday the 13th September 1924, when all the members except Mr. N. S. Nanjundaiya who wired expressing his inability to attend the meeting, were present. The questions referred to the Committee were discussed at great length and conclusions as incorporated in the accompanying proceedings were arrived at.

The question referred to the Committee in your U. O. Note No. 24 of 23, dated 23rd June 1924 has also been considered by the Committee and their recommendation in the matter of empowering Amildars to incur an expenditure up to the limit of Rs. 50 in respect of unsanctioned items of charges is embodied in resolution III (iv) of the proceedings.

The proposals of the Committee have my concurrence, I agree with the majority that there is no real need for District and Taluk Committees but if the people keenly desire it District Committees, with the powers recommended in the enclosed papers may be appointed.

I solicit sanction of Government to debit the cost on account of the travelling allowances etc., payable two to the non-official members, Messrs. C. Srinivasa Rao and H. Nanjundaraj Urs who attended the meeting to the interest earnings of the General Muzrai Fund.

Proceedings of the meeting of the Committee appointed in Government Order No. 1812-21—M. F. 232-22-10, dated 14th June 1924, held at Bangalore on Saturday the 13th September 1924.

PRESENT.

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A., Chairman.

1. Rao Bahadur M. Shama Rao, Esq., M.A.
2. Lokahitaishi H. Nanjundaraj Urs, Esq.
3. Rao Saheb H. Chennaiya, Esq.
4. B. K. Garudachar, Esq.
5. Srinivasa Rao, Esq.
6. G. Paramasivaiah, Esq., B.A., B.L.
7. B. Ramaswamaiya, Esq., B.A., B.L.
8. A. K. Syed Taj Peeran, Esq., B.A.

ABSENT.

10. N. S. Nanjundaiah, Esq.

RESOLUTIONS.

- I. The Order of Government No. 1812-21—M. F. 332-22-10, dated 14th June 1924, appointing the Committee and defining the terms of reference.

Read and recorded.

Resolved that having regard to the complexity and divergences of the different creeds and persuasions that have to be represented by a mixed Committee of the kind and of the practical difficulties involved in making up electoral rules of the several denominations and religions concerned, and of the fact that an advisory

- II. The appointment of Taluk and District Committees, their constitution and function.

body of Dharmadarsis is appointed for each Institution or group of Institutions, the appointment of Committees does not seem to be desirable; but if Government

Note.—Messrs. Rao Saheb H. Chennaiya and G. Paramasivaiah think that Committees are desirable but are in agreement with the others regarding the constitution and functions of the Committees.

are in favour of appointing Committees, the appointment of District Committees only to represent all interests, (not institutions) in the District excepting Mathas and Makans is recommended and one committee for each District may be appointed, the functions should be secular and administrative only, the ritual of particular

institutions not being within the scope of such Committees. The constitution and functions of the Committees may be as follows:—

CONSTITUTION.

(i) The committee shall consist of 12 to 15 members with the Deputy Commissioner as *President* and the Revenue Sub-Division Officers as *ex-officio* members.

(ii) So long as Dharmadarsis to manage the affairs of religious or charitable institutions are not elected, the District Committees shall also be nominated by Government.

(iii) All the members of the District Committee shall be considered as *ex-officio* Dharmadarsis or visitors of the Institutions within the District area.

(iv) The District Committee shall meet not less than twice and not more than four times a year.

(v) Travelling allowances according to District Board rates may be given to non-official members, the charges being met from the interest earnings of the General Muzrai Fund.

(vi) An annual conference of Dharmadarsis of all Institutions in a Taluk may be held along with the Taluk Conference.

FUNCTIONS.

(i) The functions of the District Committee shall for the present be confined to the administrative and financial aspects of the Institutions and their opinion will be advisory.

(ii) The members of the District Committees shall have power to visit Institutions consistently with existing usages and submit reports to the Deputy Commissioner.

(iii) The following classes of questions shall come within the purview of District Committees.

(a) Consideration of the resolutions passed by the Taluk Muzrai Conferences.

(b) Consideration of the annual budget estimates.

(c) Repairs to buildings.

(d) Grant of loans to other Muzrai Institutions or local bodies.

(e) Holding of cattle shows etc., in connection with annual Rathotsavas and the levy of fees.

(f) Consideration of the annual reports on the working of the Muzrai Institutions.

(g) Investment of funds belonging to Institutions and Improving their financial resources.

(h) Consideration of the subjects to be brought up at the Representative Assembly and those that are referred to the Committees for investigation and report.

(i) All other questions that might be referred to the Committee by the Dharmadarsis of Institutions or other authority competent to do so.

Resolved that the rules as now framed are working satisfactorily, no material changes are now recommended but the following suggestions are made.

III. Revision of the present rules defining the powers and duties of Dharmadarsis.

(i) As orders on the recommendations of the Dharmadarsis are sometimes delayed by the local officers, the following may be substituted to Rule IX of the "A" set of rules framed under Section 15 of the Muzrai Regulation.

"In all matters of routine relating to the internal management of the Institution, the unanimous opinion of the Dharmadarsis will be given effect to immediately. But where the Amildar disagrees, he shall submit a copy of the Proceedings to higher authorities for orders within 30 days of the receipt of the proceedings in his office. If orders of the Deputy Commissioner are not received within six months, the decision of the Dharmadarsis shall be carried out. But if more time for the disposal of the matter is required, the Deputy Commissioner shall obtain the orders of the Muzrai Commissioner for extension of time."

Resolved further.—

(i) that if a Dharmadarsi furnishes security to the extent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ times of the value of jewels belonging to a minor or village Institution, jewels of the maximum value of Rs. 2,000 may be left in his custody for use during prescribed occasions, thus obviating the necessity of depositing the jewels in the Taluk Treasury and conveying them to the Institution on hetchukatle and other occasions.

(ii) If an archak or other temple servant goes away without appointing a substitute, the Dharmadarsis may make temporary arrangements in consonance with the usage of the temple concerned and pending orders regarding his successor.

(iii) If a person has done a great deal for an institution, minor or village, and continues to interest himself in its welfare, he may be appointed as sole Dharmadarsi by the Muzrai Commissioner.

(iv) In the case of "Minor Institutions", the Amildar may be empowered to sanction if the Dharmadarsis approve, and draw bills up to Rs. 50 in each case of unsanctioned items of expenditure, intimation thereof being given to the Deputy Commissioner immediately and the expenditure regularized within one month.

Resolved that as the orders are so recent and as no difficulty has been felt in its practical working, no modifications are now necessary.

IV. How far the powers and duties of the Muzrai Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners as laid down in G. O. dated 25th September 1922, may be revised with a view to further decentralization.

Resolved Further.—(j) that the Revenue Sub-Division Officers may be recognised as Muzrai Officers in their respective jurisdiction under the provisions of the Muzrai Regulation and orders passed by them made appealable to the Deputy Commissioner.

(ii) that the Muzrai Commissioner's authority to hear appeals against the orders of Deputy Commissioners in cases coming within the purview of the Muzrai Regulation may be recognised.

K. CHANDY,
Chairman of the Committee.

Seigniorage Rates.

READ—

Government Notification No. I. C. 1202—Ft. 215-20-2, dated 23rd August 1921, sanctioning seigniorage rates for the removal on prepaid licenses, of firewood, charcoal, bamboos, grass and other forest produce from State Forests and also for grazing.

2. Paragraph 2 of Government Order No. I. C. 342-40—Ft. 113-21-7, dated 15th July 1922, sanctioning, among other matters, the enhancement by two annas per cart-load, of the license fees on fuel collected and removed from forests.

3. Correspondence ending with letter No. 9, dated 5th July 1924, from the Conservator of Forests recommending the levy of seigniorage rates on green or coupe fuel in the Arsikere, Belur and Hassan Ranges at twelve annas a cart-load and stating that no rates have been sanctioned in Hassan and Shimoga Districts.

4. Letter No. C. 523—24-25, dated 19th October 1924, from the Revenue Commissioner, forwarding the opinion of the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District